

**A Retraction.**

A few weeks ago the Arizona Graphic criticized Rev. F. Dilley for his action in the conversion of George Smiley, the murderer. The Graphic of March 10 apologizes to the priest as follows:

"The Graphic has expressed a quasi-editorial opinion which its editor retracts. In the issue of Jan. 20, under the head of 'Observations,' the conversion to Christianity of George Smiley, the murderer, who was hanged at Holbrook, is discussed, and this opinion is expressed: 'To baptize such a man on the eve of execution and proclaim him a convert was but making a mockery of religion, and the priest who baptized him but desecrated his holy robes.' Such an opinion is born of false logic, if nothing weaker. If it is not the duty of Catholic priests and Protestant ministers to do their utmost to bring men to repent of their sins, then the theory of the Christian religion is all wrong. If Smiley or any other moral degenerate can be 'saved' through Christ, how long before his physical dissolution must the saving process be applied? I confess I do not know. Certainly the doctor of medicine or surgery who attempts to save the life of a dying man does not thereby desecrate his professional robes. His labor may be entirely lost, but his intention is none the less praiseworthy. The Graphic apologizes to the priest who baptized Smiley. Whether he saved the murderer's soul or not, his work to that end could by no possibility result in anything but good."

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